GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:366
ANSWERED ON:03.02.2017
Use of USSD for Cashless Payments
Natterjee Shri J. Jayasingh Thiyagaraj

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has introduced any Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) use on smart phones for making cashless payments;
(b) If so, the details thereof;
(c) Whether the Government is of the opinion that this is likely to reduce the hardships of general public; and
(d) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance

(a) & (b) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has introduced USSD for mobile banking. It is an interoperable payment platform, comprising of customers 51 banks & 11 telecom operators in India, which provide basic banking services in 9 different languages, including Hindi & English, to under-banked / un-banked customers across India. USSD works both on smart phones and feature phones.

(c) & (d) *99# service of NPCI uses the USSD technology to make banking services accessible wherever voice grade mobile signals are available. USSD works on feature phone and without internet. It will help rural accountholders to carry out fund transfer through mobile banking.
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